

IN THE CLAIMS:

The pending claims are set forth below and have been amended and/or cancelled, without prejudice, where noted. Support for such amendments can be found in the specification in at least paragraphs 11 and 15-18.

1. (Cancelled) A polymer blend comprising:
an ethylene-propylene random copolymer; and
a modifier selected from the group consisting of a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based copolymer, a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based terpolymer, and a syndiotactic polypropylene homopolymer.
2. (Currently Amended) The polymer blend of claim 28 1, wherein the organic peroxide is selected from further comprising an organic peroxide such as 2,5-dimethyl-2,5 di-(tert-butylperoxy) hexane and 3,6,9-triethyl-3,6,9-trimethyl-1,2,4,5,7,8-hexonone.
3. (Currently Amended) The polymer blend of claim 28 1, wherein the ethylene-propylene copolymer comprises from about 0.4 to about 4 ~~about 2~~ weight percent ethylene.
4. (Currently Amended) The polymer blend of claim 28 1—wherein the modifier comprises from about 4 to about 10 ~~about 7~~ weight percent of the blend.
5. (Currently Amended) The polymer blend of claim 28 4—wherein the modifier is a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based copolymer.
6. (Currently Amended) The polymer blend of claim 28 4—wherein the modifier is a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based terpolymer.
7. (Currently Amended) The polymer blend of claim 28 4—wherein the modifier is a syndiotactic polypropylene homopolymer.

8-22.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of making a polymer blend comprising:
providing an ethylene-propylene random copolymer; and
blending an organic peroxide and a modifier selected from the group consisting of a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based copolymer, a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based terpolymer, and a syndiotactic polypropylene homopolymer with the ethylene-propylene random copolymer to form the polymer blend, wherein the blend has a melt flow of from about 8 dg/min. to about 12 dg/min; and
forming the polymer blend into a film.
24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising visbreaking the polymer blend.
25. (Cancelled) The method of claim 24, further comprising forming the polymer blend into a film.
26. (Currently Amended) An end-use article made from a polymer blend comprising:
an ethylene-propylene random copolymer;
an organic peroxide; and
a modifier selected from the group consisting of a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based copolymer, a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based terpolymer, and a syndiotactic polypropylene homopolymer, wherein the polymer blend has a melt flow of from about 8 dg/min. to about 12 dg/min.
27. (Original) The end-use article of claim 26 being selected from the group consisting of a film, an injection molded article, a compression molded article, a thermoformed article, and a fiber.
28. (New) A polymer blend comprising:
an ethylene-propylene random copolymer;
an organic peroxide; and

a modifier selected from a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based copolymer, a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene-based terpolymer and a syndiotactic polypropylene homopolymer, wherein the polymer has a melt flow rate of from about 8 dg/min. to about 12 dg/min.